

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 02945 132254Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 EB-08 NSC-05 INR-10  
SSO-00 /051 W

-----093694 132259Z /17/14

P 081622Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBSSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7004

UNCLAS LAGOS 2945

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y P A R A 1

E.O. 11652 : NA  
TAGS : NI, OVIP, CARTER, JIMMY  
SUBJ : BRIEFING PAPER FOR PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO NIGERIA

REF: AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO SMITH AF/W DECEMBER 12, 1977

1. IN REVIEWING PREVIOUSLY PREPARED BRIEFING PAPERS FOR  
PRESIDENT'S VISIT, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT SUBJECT OF U.S.

TRADE WITH NIGERIA AND WITH SOUTH AFRICA CONSTITUTE AD-  
DITIONAL PAPER. PROPOSED TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. AMERICAN AND OTHER WESTERN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH  
AFRICA ARE UNDER INCREASING AFRICAN SCRUTINY AND CRITICISM  
AS THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST APARTHEID INTENSIFIES. NIGERIA HAS  
ASSUMED A LEADING ROLE IN THE ANTI-APARTHEID CAMPAIGN AND  
SHOWS INCREASING INTEREST IN OUR ECONOMIC INVOLVEMENT WITH  
SOUTH AFRICA. WE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT IN TERMS OF TOTAL BI-

LATERAL TRADE, IN RECENT YEARS US-NIGERIAN TRADE HAS  
GREATLY EXCEEDED US-SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE, THE FORMER BEING  
MORE THAN TRIPLE THE LATTER VOLUME IN 1977.

3. IN IMPORTING MORE THAN DOLS6 MBILLION FROM NIGERIA IN 1977,  
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THE UNITED STATES IS NIGERIA'S LARGEST CUSTOMER WHILE NIGERIA  
IS AMONG OUR LARGEST SUPPLIERS OF IMPORTS, PROBABLY RANKING  
FIFTH OR SIXTH IN 1977 (WE DO NOT HAVE 1977 DATA FOR OTHER  
SUPPLIERS BUT IN 1976 NIGERIA WAS OUR FIFTH LARGEST SUPPLIER).  
AMERICAN EXPORTS TO NIGERIA HAVE BEEN INCREASING RAPIDLY IN  
RECENT YEARS, REACHING ALMOST DOLS1 BILLION LAST YEAR, WHILE OUR  
EXPORTS TO SOUTH AFRICA HAVE NOT INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY AND

DROPPED BY 28PERCENT IN 1977, TO DOLS1.05 BILLION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRIEFING MATERIALS, TRADE DATA, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014